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History Graduate Programme Newsletter

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February, 1988

George Rude Retires:

After a final semester of teaching, George Rude flew off to Britain and into retirement just after Christmas. Rude joined the Department of History at what was then Sir George Williams University in 1970 after many years at the University of Adelaide in Australia and one year as Head of the History Department at the University of Stirling in Scotland. The author of over a dozen books and scores of articles spanning the past four decades, Rude is one of the seminal investigators of 'history from below', and easily one of the most distinguished and influential historians of his time. We wish him a long and healthy retirement!

Peter Keating, SSHRC Research Fellow:

For the second year in a row our Department has sponsored the winner of an SSHRC Post-Doctoral Research Fellow. Dr. Peter Keating, who holds his doctorate in the History of Medicine, will take up residence with us in September to pursue his research on the implications of the concept of natural antibodies in the period c. 1890-1960. His fellowship provides him with support at Concordia for three years.

Welcome Wang Yi-Hua:

Dorval Airport at midnight may not be everyone's idea of a good time, especially after a 20 hour flight, but that was Wang Yi-Hua's introduction to Canada as he stepped off the plane from Beijing on January 4th. 'Ivan', as he is known, holds an MA in U.S. History from the University of Peking and has joined us to carry out doctoral studies in Canadian History. Welcome aboard!

Doctoral Defense: Jean Paul Coupal:

Jean Paul Coupal will defend his doctoral thesis on Friday, March 4th, 1988 at 10 AM in a room to be announced (check with the History Office). The thesis, Les pestifères. L'Historiographie bainvillienne entre la connaissance et la conscience historique française au XXe siècle, is very likely the longest ever presented at Concordia. It has been directed by Geoffrey Adams, who will be joined on the Defense Committee by Professors Hubbard, Laffey, D'Hollander (Department d'Etudes Francaises) and External Examiner Michel Grenon of UQAM. All are welcome to attend the defense, which will be held in French. A copy of the thesis will be available for consultation in the History Office prior to the event.

The Graduate Studies Office:

The Graduate Studies Office at 2145 Mackay Street has been in the process of renovation and reconstruction for some months and will be for some weeks more at least. In consequence there will be some disruptions of service, but as Dean Szabo informed us in an interview of January 26th, every effort is being made to carry out business as usual. (You're still welcome to phone, but if you visit, bring your own hard hat!)

Teaching Assistantship Guidelines Approved:

At its meeting of Friday, January 29th, the Department approved a document entitled "Guidelines for Teaching Assistantships" by a vote of 14-3-6. These Guidelines define the terms of the position, including workload and responsibilities, and call for the institution of training sessions in basic elements of teaching.

Such training sessions, which are open to all graduate students, actually got underway before the approval of these Guidelines with a workshop on leading discussion groups held on January 19th. They continue with a workshop on how to prepare a lecture on Tuesday, February 16th. All workshops are in the Loyola Campus History Seminar Room at 3 PM.

PhD Colloquium: Lorne Huston:

Our second ever PhD Colloquium will be held at 4 PM on Thursday, March 17th, in the Norris Bldg. Seminar Room. Lorne Huston will present his work-in-progress on "Institutional Change in the Paris Art World, 1900-1914", a thesis being co-directed by Profs. Adams of History and Greenberg of Art History. A Colloquium needs an audience: try and fit this into your schedule!

Student Affairs:

David Garon (MA, Canadian) joins the list of our students presenting papers at the Canadian Historical Ass'n. in the past few years. He will deliver a paper on the development of the Quebec NDP at this year's meeting in Windsor, joining Hinko Sotiron (PhD, Canadian) who was earlier invited to give a paper on Canadian Newspapers in the early 20th C. at the same meeting. Mike Duckett has successfully completed his MA Original Essay under the direction of Dr. Kate Bindon. Mike's essay is entitled 'Culture, Human Agency and Cape Breton Coal Mining Communities, 1919-1925, or Gramsci comes to Nova Scotia in a Leaky Boat', (enabling him to win the annual Best Title of the Year award!).

Faculty Findings:

Lionel Rothkrug will serve as a commentator on two panels at the forthcoming International Congress of Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, Michigan. Mike Nason has received funding to continue his study of British Interventionism after W.W. II; this summer's work will deal with the British in Egypt.

Three members of the Department will head west in the months ahead to present conference papers. Donald Ginter will address the Pacific Coast Meeting of the North American Conference on British Studies in March; Ron Rudin will speak on 'The Centralization of Power in the Caisse Populaire Movement' at the Canadian Business History Conference in Victoria, also in March; and Robert Tittler will speak on 'Theatre, Popular Culture and the Built Environment in the English Town, 1540-1640' at the Southern California Renaissance Conference at the Huntington Library in April. Rudin has also been invited to address the annual Conference of the Irish Canadian Studies Ass'n. in Dublin in May. Tittler has just published 'The Land of the Middle Ages in the English Market Town' in Sixteenth Century Journal, (Winter, 1987) XVIII, pp. 471-487.

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Feb. 3rd (W), Bettina Bradbury (U. Montreal and Concordia doctoral alumna) 'Technology and Women's Work in 19th C Montreal', Hall Bldg., Rm. 762, 7-9 P.M.

Feb. 12 (F), Round Table on 'The Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement' with Profs. Callier (Ec.), Chorney (Pol. Sci.) and Vipond (History), Norris 205, 2:34 PM.

March 10 (Th), Dorothy Thompson (Queens), "Women and the European Peace Movement since 1958", 8:30-10 PM, Hall Rm. 763.

March 11 (F), Dorothy Thompson, seminar on "Women and Radical Politics in Early Industrial Britain", 2:30-4 PM, N-205.

March 17 (Th), Lorne Huston, PhD Colloquium, 'Institutional Change in the Paris Art World, 1900-1914', 4 PM, N-205.

March 24 (Th), Carolyn Fick (Conc. Post-Doc. Fellow) 'Objectives and Methods in Writing a Social History of a Caribbean Island: St. Barthelmy, 1648-1874' 4 PM, N-205.

March 30 (W), Mark Stoler and Marshall True (U. Vermont), 'The Skills Approach to History', 4 PM, N-205.